Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-23. (Cancelled)

24.   (Currently Amended): An optical disk recording/reproducing apparatus, ~~wherein, when a recording linear speed is to be changed, the recording/reproducing apparatus interrupts~~ the apparatus comprising interruption means for interrupting a recording operation for recording onto a disk, ~~and reproduces~~ reproducing means for reproducing a signal recorded on the disk before the recording operation is interrupted, ~~the recording/reproducing apparatus being configured to compare~~ comparing means for comparing the reproduced signal and a signal stored in a buffer RAM for temporarily storing a recording signal, ~~and to resume~~ resuming means for resuming the recording operation when the compared signals are determined to be identical to each other, wherein recording properties are detected based on a signal reproduced before the recording operation is resumed, to set the recording linear speed for resuming the recording operation, depending on whether the detected recording properties are determined to be satisfactory or unsatisfactory~~.~~ , and detection means for detecting a change in recording properties through comparison between recording property data detected based on a signal reproduced before the recording operation is resumed and recording property data detected at a previous point of change of the recording linear speed, to thereby determine whether or not the recording properties have become better.

25.   (Currently Amended):   An optical disk recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein, when the recording properties of a signal

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reproduced before the recording operation is resumed are detected without changing the recording linear speed, the recording/reproducing apparatus ~~causes~~ includes means for causing the recording operation to terminate when it is determined based on the detected recording properties that recording quality is insufficient to allow a signal to be reproduced.

26.   (Cancelled).

27.   (Currently Amended): A method for recording/reproducing comprising:

interrupting a recording operation for recording onto a disk when a recording linear speed is to be changed;

reproducing a signal recorded on the disk before interrupting a recording operation;

~~configuring the recording/reproducing apparatus to compare~~ comparing the reproduced signal and a signal stored in a buffer RAM for temporarily storing a recording signal; and

resuming the recording operation when the compared signals are determined to be identical to each other;

wherein ~~the~~ recording properties are detected based on a signal reproduced before the recording operation is resumed to set the recording linear speed for resuming the recording operation, depending on whether the detected recording properties are determined to be satisfactory or unsatisfactory~~,~~ and further including detecting a change in recording properties through comparison between recording property data detected based on a signal reproduced before the recording operation is resumed and detecting recording property data at a previous

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point of change of the recording linear speed, to thereby determine whether or not the recording properties have become better.

28.   (Previously Presented): The recording/reproducing method according to claim 27, further including, when the recording properties of a signal reproduced before the recording operation is resumed are detected without changing the recording linear speed, terminating the recording operation by the recording/reproducing apparatus when it is determined based on the detected recording properties that recording quality is insufficient to allow a signal to be reproduced.

29.   (Cancelled).

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